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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/192,583 11/17/1998 TETSURO MOTOYAMA 5244-0084-2X 9978

22850 7590 07/26/2002

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EXAMINER

HO, CHUONG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2002

19

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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Attachment are:

- 1) Initialed IDS filed 06/01/00 (paper # 2) and IDS filed 04/09/01 (paper # 7).
- 2) Supplemental examiner's answer to clarify the issues on appeal.

CH
July 17, 2002

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SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S ANSWER

1. In reply to the order returning undocketed appeal to examiner on 06/28/02 that states the Examiner's Answer failed to include the required section concerning the issues on appeal filed 12/21/01. The examiner now sends this supplemental examiner's answer to include the required section concerning the issues on appeal.

2. The claims 1-53 are pending for appeal.

3. ***Issues***

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is not correct.

The appellant's statement failed to address claims 9, 19, 41, 45, and 48.

The corrected issues are as following:

(1) Whether Claims 1,2, 3, 8, 12-17, 20, 23-25, 34-39, 42, 45, 46, 48, and 50-52 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kuwabara (U.S.Patent No. 6,065,136) in view of McCormick et al. (U.S.Patent No. 6,023,723);

(2) Whether Claims 4-7, 9, and 26-31 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C.103 (a) over Kuwabara and McCormick et al. In view of Frantz (U.S.Patent-No. 6,073,166);

(3) Whether Claims 10, 11, 21, 22, 32, 33, 43, 44, 45, 47, 49, and 53 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over Kuwabara and McCormick et al. in view of Miyachi (U.S.Patent No. 6,108,492);

(4) Whether Claims 18 and 40 are anticipated under 35 USC 102 by Frantz (U.S.Patent No. 6,003,070);

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(5) Whether Claims 19 and 41 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over the combined system of Kuwabara-McCormick.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be direct to Chuong Ho whose telephone number is (703)306-4529.

Ch.

July 16, 2002



Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner